

COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD

Established 1848.

Sorghum Department.

Mississippi Valley Cane Growers' Meeting.

[CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.]

The President—We will now consider the subject of the cultivation and harvesting of the cane.

Mr. Allen of Kan.—I have a short paper on this subject which I will read.

In the cultivation of the cane crop it is not only necessary to study the characteristics of the plant and its habits of growth, but also the peculiar condition of the soil, upon which we are operating, that we may the more intelligently mature in our minds a plan of operation in harmony with the nature and requirements of this the greatest of saccharine plants adapted to a northern climate; and that we pay strict attention to details if we wish to obtain satisfactory results.

It may be true on general principles that all that is necessary is to plow, plant and cultivate.

But as to the "how" and "when" to do these things I wish to offer a few thoughts. I do not wish to discuss the merits or demerits of deep or shallow plowing, but will assume that the ground has been well prepared as for the other hard crops; with us fall and winter plowing gives the best results with the least labor. I always leave the surface of the soil smooth and level ready for the planting, which of course will vary as to time with the locality; but recommend that it be done early in the season of that locality; and that varieties be chosen which will give as long a season of working as possible at the same stage of ripening, thus secure a uniform grade to our product.

Whatever implement is used for planting the seed should be deposited very shallow and the soil be firmly pressed upon them.

The rows should not be more than three and a half feet apart, and hills one foot apart in the row are preferable to a continuous drill, because it facilitates hoeing and cutting. I use a corn drill manufactured by J. A. Field & Co., of this city, with plates arranged expressly for cane, depositing a hill every foot in a furrow opened by a runner and followed by a large wheel which covers and presses the soil firmly on the seed; but it has the disadvantage of only planting one row at a time and the operator has to walk.

This is a very efficient implement for a hundred acres or less, but for very large crops I would check-row in hills 20x10 inches, which would necessitate a little change in some of the present machinery for planting corn in order to adapt it to planting cane.

Having secured a stand by planting from 3 to 5 grains of good seed to the hill, we come to the most vital part of cane culture, but where more mistakes and failures occur than at any other point.

It being a delicate and slow-growing plant in its infancy, the same culture usually given to corn will not answer for cane. The harrow may be extensively used before planting, but I have no use for it afterwards, having discovered a better way.

Three years ago I made an attachment to an ordinary cultivator which has worked to my entire satisfaction and the admiration of all who have seen it work. Being very simple and can be attached to any ordinary cultivator, I will attempt to explain it.

I remove the shovels and in their place attach to each set of beams a board about eight inches wide and extending forward so that the two will meet in front over the row; the difference in the length of the beams gives the boards the proper slope. With these boards a little rounding on the lower side faced on the front side with heavy sheet-iron—steel would be better, and bolted to the beams in place of the shovels. The facing should extend about six inches forward on each side of the row to fend off the clods.

With such an implement an expert can run within an inch on either side of the plants and a half inch deep, scraping everything away, leaving only a very narrow strip of ground to be hoed, which should be done immediately. Two men will be able to keep up to the plow unless the land is very foul with weeds. This operation should be delayed until the cane has made a growth of two inches or more and then followed quickly with the cultivator, with good fenders on, so that the plants may be earthed as well, which will prevent them to some extent from stooping at the collar.

The planter indicated above makes a depression of an inch or two in the soil enabling the operator to follow the row more easily, and the scraper to work more efficiently, for it will be observed that the first growth of weeds will principally be along the edge of the wheel mark of the planter rather than in the center of the row, when this machine will prevent them to the great gratification of the operator.

The second and subsequent plowing may be done with the cultivator in common use, but I have shovels made narrow with wings on them like a plow share, sufficiently long to cut all the ground well. Hilling should be the principal thing sought after in the first cultivation as the cane will not admit of deep cultivation.

There are many scientific reasons why the plan of operation here indicated is correct, but it would lengthen out our paper too much to discuss them now. Having followed it to good satisfaction for the past few years I can confidently recommend it to others. There may be many modifications of this mode of cultivation, but in no case can we profitably dispense with the scraper. It will save a crop from the weeds when nothing else will, for it can be used when the ground is too wet to

admit of a cultivator, and a crop secured with a minimum of labor, which is not the least important feature of this industry.

A Member—I would like to ask Mr. Allen if he soaks his seed?

Mr. Allen—I have soaked seed, but, generally speaking, I hardly think it worth while to soak seed. I planted some seed late, replanted the fourth time on the same ground, on account of cold weather and bad seed, and the seed made their appearance through the ground in three days, and I think that is soon enough for all practical purposes, for seed to germinate.

Sorghum seed is a very peculiar seed. A little heat and moisture will destroy the germ, while it may be wet nearly to the sprouting point for a long time and then dried out and still grow. I planted my seed with a seed drill, such as I think Mr. Field has. It cost me twenty-two dollars. It is a common drill, made expressly for drilling corn, and all we did was to drill smaller holes, adapted to the seed. It didn't plant quite enough at first, but I reseeded it out and it planted more.

Mr. Frazer, of Wisconsin—The mode of planting suggested by the gentleman will not suit, I think, in our country, because we are subject to heavy rains in the spring, and especially in clay soil, if it is planted by this drill running over it and forming a depression, and sinking it an inch or two lower than the ordinary level, it would drown out; or if the land were rolling, be likely to wash the seed out. I have always been an advocate of shallow planting. I planted three times last spring on account of it. I had it in splendid condition and it failed to come. We didn't have any rain from the time we commenced to plant until the 23d of June; not enough to wet the ground one inch deep. I think in our latitude a safer plan would be to soak the seed ready to sprout, and then it would bear covering a little deeper, say one or one and a half inches, as it will readily grow if planted twice the depth, after soaking, that it would otherwise.

Mr. Allen—I advocate shallow planting in cane that is planted early; then the ground is usually sufficiently moist so that the seed will receive moisture sufficient to germinate; but shallow is a comparative term, and should depend on the condition of the soil. If it is very dry you must plant deeper—the same as with corn.

A Member—This last season I cultivated about two and a half acres of cane with what is called the ridge culture. I tried this process on a piece of cane of five acres. I planted one-half of it on the ridge. I had a ridge plow. It is a double-bar plow, throwing a ridge steep or flat, and cultivator made so as to turn it in any shape for planting. I planted one-half of it on the ridge, taking my drill and running over it, then planting on top of the ridge. The balance of the field I furrowed, and planted in the furrow, from which I didn't succeed in getting any stand at all; while that planted on the ridge was as pretty a stand as I ever had, and in a wet or backward season, I should prefer the ridge planting.

A Member—My experience has been that cane seed will grow under most any circumstances.

VALUE OF SEED FOR STOCK FEEDING PURPOSES.

Mr. Douglass: I would say with us it is not saved for feeding stock, but seed all helps. We used to raise millet, but we found we could raise more cane per acre; it is better for the land, and the seed is worth a great deal more than the top of the stack of the millet was. The only trouble is in cutting it.

Mr. Stout: I threshed all mine with a threshing machine; I think that the best way.

Mr. Frazer: I bought some seed not far from St. Louis, but not here, and putting it under a glass I discovered more than half the seeds were cut. I concluded I wouldn't buy any other seed unless I knew it was hand-threshed.

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The President: Can you dispose of all the seed you raise?

Mr. Douglass: Yes; last spring we didn't have half enough.

The President—Are sheep men anxious to buy it for feed?

Mr. Douglass—No, I think not.

The President—That is the report I have from some sections of Kansas; they drive some hundreds of miles for feed.

Mr. Douglass—it is my opinion that a bushel of corn is worth a good deal more than a bushel of cane seed.

Mr. Culbertson—We commenced by planting two or three pounds of seed to the acre, and now I want ten, twelve or fifteen pounds to the acre. There is now no difficulty in getting a stand. If I had to pay a big price for the seed, I wouldn't use so much. If the cane is too thick when it comes up to eight or ten inches in height, the method of thinning is to run it cross-wise of the field with a harrow, and thin it out in that way.

Mr. Allen—if we could teach our harrowers to discriminate where it is too thick and where too thin, we could do that way—I have tried the harrow; and perhaps he doesn't have the same class of noxious weeds that we do; but I know that some of our weeds will live and grow fat under a harrow that will annihilate our cane.

Mr. Muncie—I would like to ask the gentleman if he ever tried cultivating the cane before it was up, and then cross-cultivating with his harrow, the same as corn?

Mr. Allen—No, I have not; nor do I think, from my experience, it would be successful.

Mr. Douglass, of Kansas—When my ground is ready for planting, I take a double corn-planter, a two-horse corn-planter with a drill attachment. I have one that I never knew to miss a rod in twenty or in one hundred acres. We have different sized plates, so we can plant thin or thick as we please. My method is to get good seed, and then plant what I want. About the time it comes up I put it in a harrow and try to drag it. I drag it then from one to three or four times, till it gets eight or ten inches high. I have been up there in Kansas since 1870, and have used this method. I never have had a hoe in my field yet, and when I have to have one I am going to quite raise it, because I can't raise sorghum or broom-corn, or corn and hoe it with any profit. Therefore, I make my harrow hoe it. I calculate a bushel of good seed will plant forty acres. If the soil is dry I put it in from one to three inches deep; if moist, I plant as shallow as possible.

A Member—I think that Kansas is fast becoming the sweetest State in the Union. I agree with Mr. Allen more nearly than with any one whose opinion I have heard as to the modes of operation and of planting and cultivating the cane. Instead of the scraper used by some, I take a diamond plow and make it almost as sharp as a knife, hitch one horse to it and run the point right close to the cane. I want the seed soaked and planted as shallow as the ground will admit of. As for using the harrow, in place of the hoe, I could never conceive my harrow in that manner. When I get too much cane in a hill and I undertake to harrow, it takes three times the length of time to do that thinning it would do to the hoeing, and is very much harder work.

SAVING SPEED.

Mr. Hendershot: There is another point I

to be continued.

A Valuable Farm Implement.

The "Acme" Pulverizing Harrow, Clod Crusher and Leveler, which is, and has been, advertised in our columns, fulfills all the promises made for it by the manufacturers, Messrs. Nash & Bro., of Millington, N. J. We have a personal knowledge of the great utility of this harrow, derived from experience and observation; and we do not hesitate to recommend it in the strongest terms.

The pamphlet recently issued by Nash & Bro., contains over thirteen hundred testimonies from farmers residing in every State and Territory in the Union. These testimonies show the high repute in which the "Acme" is held by all who have used it, and the great benefit which has resulted from its use. It does perfect work in all kinds of soil, and a special feature of the dealings of Nash & Bro. is that they allow any responsible farmer to make a trial of the "Acme" before buying, and we know them to be gentlemen of integrity who will do as they say.

All farmers would do well to pursue this matter and learn for themselves the truth of our words.

SAVING SPEED.

Mr. Hendershot: There is another point I

ST. LOUIS, THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1883.

No. 11, Vol. XXXVI.



Barnes Wire Check Rower, Manufactured by Chambers, Bering, Quinlan Co., Decatur, Illinois.

Agricultural.

Cow Peas.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD:—J. Bell & Son, make inquiry in regard to cow peas, in a late number of the RURAL WORLD, for hay. They should be planted about the 13th of May in drills 2 1/2 feet apart 6 inches in the row, so as to cultivate with horse and cultivator. The hay should be thoroughly cured like clover and placed in barn without rain.

As a fertilizer it has few equals and is much less trouble to grow than clover. For improving worn out lands, the ground should be worked down fine and the peas sown, or a better way would be to put in with grain drill one half bushel to the acre, they will soon cover the ground and keep down the weeds. As soon as the bloom begins to fall, plow under, covering as deeply as possible; then plant again the same way and before frost plow under again, by this means two crops can be grown and utilized the same year, or if a person does not want to grow but one crop, a very good way is to break wheat or oat stubble and plant in, say, July, the crop can be turned under in August or September and again sown to wheat.

G. W. S.

Eureka Springs, March 12, 1883.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD:—In answer to J. Bell & Son, regarding cow peas, will say, that they make a number one hay. Some sow broadcast about one bushel to the acre, but plowing land first and then drill in or drop by hand, is much the best way, as then they can be worked, and on good land will turn out excellently well. However, for turning under green it cannot be done. I have not seen the plow, either one or two-horse, that will do it properly—the plow will choke up, that is if they were drilled in, as the long vines interfere, but if broadcasted it is less trouble to plow under. All kind of stock—mules, cows, sheep and hogs—will eat them up clean. They are easily raised, one or two working hours being enough; plant as soon as ground is warm, first of May is soon enough here. They will yield from five to twenty bushels to the acre. Horses can be wintered on pea vine hay without corn. The speckled pea yields the most peas, but does not make so much vine. The clay, black or red are great runners and will completely cover the ground even early and worked. They are a slow crop to pick seed, about a bushel is the average, for our negro pickers. Price of them varies greatly; last year they sold for about \$3.00; this year about \$1.25. Can send you some of the speckled and clay peas. Think they might be bought in St. Louis.

JOSEPH G.

Hernando, Miss.

Planting and Harvesting Potatoes.

COL. COLMAN: As it is about time to plant early potatoes, I will give the readers of the RURAL the method of some of our most successful growers for market.

The ground is thoroughly cultivated, then marked in rows three feet apart each way.

The seed is prepared by first cutting off what is called the seed end of the potato, which is rejected, had better be fed to stock of some kind, cut the remainder of the tuber so as to leave two or three eyes on each piece, drop one in each hill and cover three or four inches deep.

When they make their appearance above the ground, go through the ground with a light harrow, afterwards cultivate with shovel-plow or cultivator.

It is believed that by the above method of discarding the seed end, the crop will be more even (marketable) in size, and that the potato will not degenerate so rapidly, but will furnish large, thrifty, growing stalks as well as large yields.

The seed ends produce numerous small

tops and many small potatoes, with few large ones.

For the destruction of the bugs, a cheap and effective method is to mount a keg-barrel on a two-wheeled conveyance drawn by one horse. In the barrel insert a faucet; on opposite sides near the bottom attach short pieces of hose, furnished with sprinklers to each. Two men can ride and thoroughly sprinkle a row each, the work being rapidly and easily done. The solution used (Paris Green in water) should be prepared the day before using so as to test its strength; the water should show a greenish color; sprinkle a few hills with it, if too strong it will burn the tops, if not strong enough it will not kill the bugs; a little experience will show how strong to make it. If the Paris Green was always of uniform strength, the exact amount could be given.

A good potato digger may be made of a common shovel-plow with three or more iron arms riveted on each side, set to run pretty flat, it will get them pretty clean; run through with cultivator after and you get them all.

The farmer ought to have fifty bushel baskets. In gathering potatoes, let the pickers follow the digger and fill the baskets; a man with team comes after and loads them on the wagon, provision being made to carry about thirty baskets. Do not empty the baskets until the place of storage is reached. When emptied return to the field with baskets and load and fill. In this way they are handled carefully and labor is saved, at least so say those who have tried it. The baskets are a good investment, as they are useful in a variety of ways on the farm.

M. V. COOK.

Grand Rapids, Mich.

Ripley County, Mo.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD:—In your issue of February the 15th, C. P., of Madison, Wis., wishes to learn something about Southern Missouri and Northern Arkansas.

I will give him a few notes from Ripley county, Mo., and her topographical situation. She is bounded on the south by the State of Arkansas, the principle meridian passing through the western portion of the county. The Ozark mountains run from Cape Girardeau on the Mississippi river, in a southwest direction to Fort Smith, on the Arkansas river, protecting her from the northwest winds from the snow-capped peaks of the Rocky mountains, which render the climate of Western Missouri and Kansas more unpleasant.

The winters here are six to eight degrees milder than the same latitude east of the Mississippi river, or west of the Ozark mountains, being about equal to the climate of southern Tennessee in winter, and not warmer in the same latitude in summer, than either east or west of her. Her climate is one of the most pleasant in the Government. Her productions consist of corn, wheat, oats, rye, tobacco, cotton, and all the variety of grasses.

The soil seems to be specially adapted to wheat, tobacco and grazing—meadows averaging from one and a half to two tons of hay per acre, and when once set with grass it is permanent. Stock of all kinds do well here, and especially cattle and sheep. The range furnishes nine months grazing a year, and where the land has been seeded with the tame grasses, such as timothy, red top, orchard grass, or blue grass, sheep will do well all winter, only requiring protection from bad weather. Cattle frequently go through the winter without any care, and get to be good beef by the 1st of July.

Fruits and vegetables of all kinds grow well here. Small fruits seem to be native to the soil and climate; strawberries, raspberries, black and whortleberries all grow wild. Apples and peaches do well, and are very good eating. The Barnes Wire Check Rower is the first that has accomplished the great object of making corn checking a perfection. It avoids all unnecessary friction on the pulleys; also heavy draft

THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR.
COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD.

BY NORMAN J. COLMAN.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

ADVERTISING: 25 cents per line of space; reduction on large or long time advertisements.
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Readers of the RURAL WORLD, writing to or calling upon any one advertising in our columns, will do us a favor if they will say they saw the advertisement in his State.

PREMIUMS FOR CLUBS.

In reply to inquiries whether we will offer premiums for large clubs we will say that we have concluded to open a premium list in which our friends can make such offers as they like in poultry, hogs, pigs, implements, machines, nursery stock, and such articles as we have been in the habit offering in years past. Those wishing to aid in extending the circulation of the RURAL WORLD should send us letters stating what they will give. We will keep list standing, giving name and post-office of donor and the article offered. Our subscribers can now go to work getting up clubs with the assurance that every large club maker will get a fine premium.

Mr. J. C. Witham, Perry, Ill., offers a trio Partridge Cochinchicken premia.

Chalmers D. Colman, Lakeside stock farm, St. Louis, Mo., offers one pure Jersey Bull calf, from deep milking strains.

L. W. Ashby, Calhoun, Henry Co., Mo., offers a fine Berkshires pig.

Ephriam Link, Greenville, Tenn., offers one half bushel of Link's Hybrid cane seed.

Thos. D. Fox, Freeburg, St. Clair Co., Ills., offers one pure one pair pure bred white Leghorn chickens and one setting of Brown Leghorn eggs.

And for another premium the same party offers one pair pure bred brown Leghorn chicks and one setting of white Leghorn eggs, all to be packed and shipped as directed.

Mr. H. V. Pugsley, Plattsburgh, N.Y., offers a first class merino ram as a first premium.

Henry Schnell, Glasgow, Mo., offers 100 Cumberland Trifolins, 1 doz. Manchester, 1 doz. Big Bob, and 1 doz. Jersey Queen Strawberry Plants, the receiver paying express charges.

Miss Alice Fisher, of Summerville, Peoria Co., Ills., offers for one of the premiums one setting of Pekin Duck eggs and one setting of Plymouth Rock eggs.

Isaac F. Graves, of McKinney, Texas, will give a pure bred Essex pig, of either sex, to the first club of fifteen subscribers for the RURAL WORLD, from the counties of Grayson, Collin, or Dallas, in the State of Texas.

THE wool-growers of Caldwell county, Mo., will hold their second annual shearing at Breckenridge, on Wednesday, April 11th.

THAT big blow predicted by Wiggins of Canada, for the 9th March, did not come, and we are again able to moralize that the days of the prophets have passed and we need no longer listen to their predictions.

THE subject of divorce is to be treated in the April number of the *North American Review* by Judge Jameson, the well-known divorce judge of Chicago, and the Rev. Dr. Theodore D. Woolsey, the life-long opponent of divorce.

THE waters of the Mississippi below St. Louis are still very high, and hundreds of thousands of acres of the best of farm lands are yet covered with them. Still it is believed the worst has past, a considerable fall being recorded at Cairo.

THE very favorable weather prevailing now, which permits the removal of potatoes, apples, onions, and other perishable products from a more northern latitude to this city is good news for consumers. The prices on such goods show considerable decline the past 10 days, the result of very liberal receipts.

SOME of the farmers of Miller County, Mo., are talking of raising a fund to induce a man to go there to open a canning establishment, thus to afford a market for their surplus fruits. Better, far, organize company among themselves with their own capital and then find a market for their surplus products.

THE Great Jackson route over which most of the delegates went to the New Orleans convention of fruit-growers is an elegantly equipped road; the smoothness of the ride and the fast time made, show that the officers of this great line from Chicago to New Orleans have done something to merit the immense patronage the road is favored with.

SWEET POTATOES ought to be a very profitable crop in the South, judging by the immense quantities produced to the acre when properly managed. Mr. E. M. Hudson, of New Orleans, the Vice President of the Gulf States Fruit-growers' Association, raised 620 bushels to the acre last year, and he states that as much as one thousand bushels to the acre can be produced.

MR. T. H. GLENN, editor of the *Prairie Farmer*, Chicago, paid our office a visit on Tuesday last, on his way to Texas. Mr. Glenn is a gentleman of great experience in the agricultural world and travels with all his senses on the *qui vive* for such information as can be of value to his readers. He will, in company with his brother-in-law, H. M. Reynolds, of

Grand Rapids, Michigan, make quite an extended tour of Texas and doubtless bring home much that will interest the readers of the *Prairie Farmer*.

HAVING an enquiry for a cattle ranch, containing not less than thirty thousand acres of good grazing land, we should be pleased if those of our readers who know of such a tract for sale, would communicate particulars to the business manager of the RURAL WORLD. Should the tract comprise from fifty to seventy thousand acres, it would be all the more desirable.

DURING the discussion on transportation at the recent Fruit Growers' meeting at New Orleans, Dr. McKay, the great strawberry grower of Mississippi, paid a high compliment to the Jackson route, or continuation of the Illinois Central R.R., which carried all his fruit to the North. He said the management of the road had done a great deal to develop this industry in his State.

THE WOOL SCHEDULE
provides for a considerable reduction of duties on the raw material. The present classification into clothing, combing and carpet wools is retained. Compound duties on wool are abolished, but the classification is so altered as to give the higher rate a somewhat wider application. In the first and second classes these are the rates: Present tariff—worth not over 30 cents per pound, 10 cents per pound and 11 per cent; worth over 32 cents, 12 cents per pound and 10 per cent. New tariff—worth not over 30 cents per pound, 10 cents per pound; worth over 30 cents per pound, 12 cents. Wools of the third class worth not over 12 cents per pound now pay 3 cents a pound, and worth over 12 cents pay 6 cents. They are to pay 2 1/2 cents and 5 cents respectively.

Flannels, blankets, knit goods, etc., are changed in classification, and the effect of the change is uncertain. Now, if worth not over 40 cents per pound, they pay 20 cents per pound; if worth 40 to 60 cents, 30 cents; 60 to 80 cents, 40 cents; above 80 cents, 50 cents, and 35 per cent on the value in each case. This is the new rate: Worth 30 cents per pound or less, 10 cents per pound; 30 cents to 40 cents, 12 cents; 40 to 60 cents, 18 cents; 60 to 80 cents, 24 cents, and 35 per cent ad valorem additional in each instance; above 80 cents, 35 cents per pound and 40 per cent. Women's and children's dress goods, composed wholly or in part of wool worth not over 20 cents per yard, enter at 6 cents per yard and 35 per cent; and, worth over 20 cents a yard, at 8 cents a yard and 40 per cent. By the new bill the same goods, if only partly of wool, pay 5 cents per yard and 35 per cent and 7 cents per yard and 40 per cent, respectively while if they are wholly made of wool the rate is 9 cents a yard and 40 per cent. All such goods weighing over four ounces per square yard will pay 35 cents a pound and 40 per cent instead of 50 cents a pound and 40 per cent.

Clothing, ready-made, balmoral skirts, etc., now pay 50 cents per pound and 40 per cent; they will be admitted under the new act at 40 cents per pound and 35 per cent, except cloaks, dolmans and other outside garments for women or children, on which the rate will be 45 cents per pound and 40 per cent.

Throughout the long list of carpets there are general, though not very great, reductions.

per pound from No. 13 to No. 16, 3 cents from No. 16 to No. 20, and 3.5 cents above No. 20. The present rates here are 3 7/16, 4, 1-16 and 5 cents respectively. But the new rates on the refined sugars, like the old, are, and were intended to be, prohibitory. The principal gainers from the reduction of duties on sugar will be the refiners of the higher grades of raw sugars, who get their material under a lower duty and retain just as much protection against foreign competition as they have now. Molasses testing below 56 degrees will pay four cents a gallon, testing above 56 degrees 8 cents. The present rate on all molasses is 6 1/4 cents.

TOBACCO.

Leaf tobacco, unmanufactured and unstemmed, stands now at 35 cents per pound; in the new tariff this rate is retained, but if 85 per cent of the leaf is stemmed, for wrappers, and more than 100 leaves are required to weigh a pound, the duty will be 75 cents a pound if unstemmed, or \$1 if stemmed. Stemmed tobacco now pays 50 cents per pound; under the new law, any stemmed tobacco, excepting the above, will pay 40 cents per pound.

THE CATTLE PARD.

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NOTES-CORRESPONDENCE.

James C. Smith, of Caledonia, Mo., who settled there a few years since from Woodford county, Ky., offers four bull calves for sale. He has a nice little herd of between twenty and thirty head, and farmers would do well to see his stock. His cows are of excellent milking families, and especially deserve attention on that account.

Chenuau Todd, of Lafayette, Mo., has a very nice herd of Shorthorn cattle of the Rose of Sharon, Young Mary, Phyllis, Duchess of Sutherland, Ruby, Miss Sevier, Delight, (by Lancaster) and Belline families. He has too a good flock of Cotswold sheep of Kentucky stock, and always a choice lot of Poland-China pigs of the very best strains.

Stockmen's Convention Postponed.

Owing to the present sanitary condition of our city, it has been deemed best to postpone the holding of the Stockmen's Convention until April 10th, 11th and 12th, 1883, at which date we hope to see all parties present who are interested in the move. A. H. McCoy, T. J. Ward, J. E. Dudley, F. D. Healey, C. M. Beeson, H. S. Gray, Committee.

C. G. LEUTHSTORM,
Dodge City, Kansas, March 6th, 1883.

The Dodge City Meeting.

We are under obligations to D. M. Frost, Esq., editor and proprietor of the *Ford County Globe*, Dodge City, Kansas, for a very cordial and pressing invitation to attend the meeting of the Stockmen, called for the 20th, 21st and 22nd inst., which, however, has been postponed to the 10th of April, and to speak to them on the great interest in which they are engaged.

Mr. Frost writes: "We hope you will consent to be with us on the date above given and address our assembly which at this time gives evidence of being the largest meeting that ever assembled at any place in the west. We shall, therefore, not only be glad to have you present, but as well the prominent stock men and stock commission men of your city and State. This for all your people could be made a trip of pleasure combined with business, and thus be made very agreeable as well as profitable to all concerned. Hoping you may be prepared to canvass the matter thoroughly and conclude to come to the City of the Plains where you are assured a most cordial reception, I am, &c."

D. M. FROST.

We hope the stock men and stock commission men will, now the meeting has been postponed to the 10th of April, have gotten over the fatigues of their Texas trip and put in an appearance in full force at Dodge City.

L. Palmer's Sale.

In another column of this issue will be found the announcement of the forthcoming sale of L. Palmer, of Sturgeon, Mo., to take place at Dexter Park, Chicago, on Thursday, April 19th. Mr. Palmer's is the champion Shorthorn herd of Missouri to-day, in that he has for several years been the only man who has

daared to attend the prominent fairs of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, to show against the so-called champion herds of the West.

He has moreover for several years made a practice of breeding for beef, and challenged many breeders of the country—and not of the west only—by openly espousing the Crickshank cattle and of paying the highest prices ever paid for them in the west. It was to the animals of this breeding that Ben F. Vanmeter and Leslie Combs, the committee appointed by the new Kentucky Shorthorn breeders' company to visit Great Britain to select their stock, paid marked attention and from which they made heavy purchases.

Is there a law of this State compelling railroads to allow a shipper to put more than one kind of stock in a car for shipment at one time if desired? If so, what course would you advise when the agent refused to allow the car thus loaded, and compute the expense of paying for two cars where one could be made to answer the purpose, and not exceed 20,000 lbs. in weight. Please answer, and oblige an old patron and a FREE TRADER, Union Ridge, Mo.

—
SUGAR.

The method is brought about in the method of assessing duties on sugar. All sugars are now graded by the Dutch standard. The new law prescribes the polariscope test up to No. 13 Dutch standard, and provides that sugar testing not above 75 degrees shall pay 1.4 cents per pound, and that .04 cent per pound shall be added for every degree above 75. This classification favors the importation of high-grade sugars, because it bears with disproportionate weight on the lower grades. The average, however, is not far from 47 per cent, being a reduction of from 12 to 20 per cent below the existing rates. Above No. 13 the classification is still by the Dutch standard—2.75 cents

raising a fund to induce a man to come here and open a canning establishment to afford a market for our surplus fruit. Hogs are nearly all marketed, stock has wintered well considering the winter we have had.—N. J. SHEPHERD.

—Where can I get a book on sheep raising, their diseases, care, etc. etc.?—J. H. Summer, Ills. Randall's Fine-wool sheep Husbandry, cloth, 12mo, price \$1.00. Randall's Practical Shepherd, a complete treatise on the breeding, management and treatment of sheep, illustrated, cloth 8 vols., \$2.00. Stewart's Shepherd's Manual, a valuable, practical treatise on sheep for American farmers and sheep growers, illustrated, cloth, 12mo, \$1.50. May all be had at this office.

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—But then Mr. Palmer has by no means despised the Bates and Booth stock as will be seen by reference to the families mentioned in his advertisement.

Read his announcement, write for his catalogues and attend the sale in the assurance that there will be sold some of the very best stock to be offered this year.

cessive generations; usually of animals very closely related.

Hereditary or inheritance is used to indicate that, usually, an animal receives its qualities from its parents, just as one inherits the property of a parent.

Atavism, reversion, breeding-back describe the cases in which an animal manifests qualities not apparent in the parents, but which characterized some more remote ancestor.

Prepotent describes unusual ability to transmit character to offspring. If an animal manifests more of the qualities of one parent than of the other, that parent may be said to have been prepotent. Pure-bred animals are commonly prepotent when crossed with those cross-bred.

—*Breeders' Gazette.*

Shetland Ponies.

COL. COLMAN:—I see from a speech recently delivered by you, before the Agricultural Institute of the Illinois Industrial University, that you spoke very highly of the breeding of the Shetland pony. Now, as this is an enterprise which I have in view, and intend entering upon, I will take it as a special favor if you will give all the information you possess on this subject. I would like to know the names of the breeders of the Shetlands in Texas, Missouri and Kentucky. Mr. Campbell Brown, of Tennessee, has a few pure-blooded Shetlands which he proposes to cross on native Indian ponies. My plan is to cross on native saddle ponies, having an eye to size, beauty and saddle gait. I am satisfied to breed a small pony that will ride, with all the women and children as purchasers, will be a paying investment. The toy business is a grand thing and the pony business will be nearly equal to it. Anything from you will be highly appreciated.

G. Y. Y.

Waverly, Clay Co., Miss.

Address Thomas T. Turner, St. Louis, Mo.—[ED. RURAL WORLD.]

How to Select a Horse.

Dr. E. A. A. Grange lectured before the Agricultural department of the Minnesota State University on "How to Select a Horse."

A live horse was induced, after much persuasion, to enter the lecture room, and the lecturer illustrated the various points to be noticed in the purchase of a horse.

In examining horses for soundness, said he, it is necessary to proceed in a systematic manner. His own method was to begin upon the left side of the animal, and usually with the front, at the left nostril, diluting it and looking at the inside for the rose pink color, which is the healthy condition. If the animal

March 15, 1883.

The Home Circle.

COL. COLMAN:—I most earnestly protest against any change in the Home Circle. For gracious goodness sake, we have already *nearly* books enough on Dry Goods and Preserves. He, indeed, must be a poor, pitiful, thriftless specimen of a farmer, who is unable or unwilling to buy the books needed for himself and family. Might not the Home Circle appropriately adopt the motto!

Equal rights to all;

Exclusive privileges to none.

My sister dear—sweet Ina is her honored, stainess name—With magic voice, so well she can her social rights proclaim. An ample Circle, at most happy Home, I cut in twain, That thus, in self defense, I could my equal rights maintain. Delight extreme was pictured on her fair, angelic brow.

Because her fondest, only wish, she easy got, just now.

Contentment far outspread her wings, and Semi-Circles both entwined, And vainly strove secure to make our everlasting bliss combined.

My charming Semi-Circle true, did ever so remain; Her's was too small, expansive, endless nations to contain.

She earnest came, and vainly wished a place in my domain.

You have, most clear and well-defined, the choicest rights you sought—What now, so sad a change, untimely has it wrought?

Confounding all the laws of right, man's ev'ry social thought.

With Us, Creation's Lords, on equal terms you would contend,

To equal education and the suffrage, views extend.

Why then, encroach and trespass on the sacred Circle's Home?

Ambition, man's supreme control, on this his thoughts they roam.

As well as you, he has an active, energetic soul;

His many thoughts, do not, always, so kindly brook control.

Drive him, all his ambitions, from the magic Circle's Home,

Then on forbidden thoughts and scenes you force his mind to roam;

And how could jealous woman fair, such naughty course approve?

Then, from the happy Circle's Home, his thoughts do not remove.

—JUVENIS.

Thoughts of a Subscriber.

1st. Again, I venture to intrude upon the Home Circle.

2d. In reading Frank's letter in the RURAL of February the 8th, I was impressed with the sense contained in his last remarks, about speculating in sacred things, and the revision of the Lord's prayer. 3d. It seems that some people would be glad to change some of the Ten Commandments to suit some particular fancy of theirs. Yet, I think the realities of right doing and right living in this world, are governed by the same laws now, with which they were years ago.

4th. We learn that the laws of nature are unchangeable. I once heard a man say, as everything else was improving he thought our manner of worship should improve also. 5th. True our manner of reverence to the Creator will change in proportion as we are educated to understand his laws as responsible. 6th. By this I do not mean to blame our friends who are dead, from their circumstances were different from ours and to suppose that they never made any mistakes would be to affirm they were not human but divine. 7th. If we strive with all our mind to love and reverence our Creator, He will teach us to love and admire his creatures in proportion as we love and obey him. 8th. And to obey him in full we must make use of all the works of nature to enlighten us in regard to his will. 9th. Ignorance does not excuse us if that ignorance is caused by neglecting opportunities which would have forewarned us against disobedience. Who, then, is perfect? Not one.

J. T.
Percy, Illinois.

Criticising the Critics.

Somebody defines a critic as a person "who finds fault with the manner of doing something which he himself cannot possibly do."

J. W. Christopher Columbus tells us that he "shortened his list of periodicals by two names," because the offending journals "published trash." I wonder that he is not afraid the publication of such letters as his last may affect the subscription list of the RURAL WORLD, for the same reason.

Josiah tells us that the absence of many old-time contributors may be accounted for on the score of too much criticism. Right, and yet—wrong. Webster defines criticism as "the art of judging of the beauties and faults of a literary performance, or, of a production of the fine arts; a critical judgment passed or expressed."

Fault-finding, then, is not criticism. I think the so-called criticism of the Circle has heretofore been rather a species of cynicism—critical less than cynical. Josiah condemns himself by launching forth into an attack upon one of our best contributors, of whom he asserts, that "some of our female writers" consider him to be perfect. I wonder why he particularly objects to the "female women" admiring Bon Ami—or is it the women he refers to by the word "female?"

Sophie adds her voice, and advises the ejection of the literati, and especially the ousting of the gentlemen, thus gaining more space for the "discussion of household matters." Being somewhat interested in this movement, I beg to assure her that such summary decisions will not be at all necessary. If the ladies capable of contributing on such subjects will send in their "copy," I am sure they will find both room and readers. But we, who lack both taste and talent for such writ-

ing, must write of something else, or keep silent. When we are silent the Circle is empty. Sophie should inaugurate the "new departure." I am sure she could be very interesting, and space and respectful attention will be guaranteed.

After calling for this exorcism, she asks, "Shall we be the mere drudges of the men, deprived of all opportunity of intellectual or social recreation?" What does she mean? Does she call the discussion of cooking, and "domestic duties"—which I understand to mean, dishwashing, laundrying, sweeping, scrubbing, patching, darning, and their train of attendant trials—"intellectual or social recreation?" I am afraid I should have a sick headache, or some similar excuse for my persistent absence from those "recreations." As to the opportunities for intellectual and social culture, they are not much more abundant in gatherings composed of both sexes, where mind interchanges with mind, and where each stimulates the other to his or her best endeavor? A party composed solely of women seldom refrain from the discussion of some luckless absentee; instead of striving to raise the standard of housewifery by the imparting of practical information, the ladies I am sorry to say, are decidedly most disposed to gossip. And an assemblage of men for "social recreation," generally degenerates into a drinking bout, or some such thing. The divine law says, "It is not good for man to be alone," and the ages have demonstrated its truth and wisdom. Heathen saturnalia alone separated the sexes, and Christianity, culture and refinement loudly protests against its further observance. Nowhere will be found so broad a sphere for intellectual culture or such strong refining influences as in the intermingling of the sexes in "social and intellectual recreations." There is a theory of a "survival of the fittest," Sophie, send on your letters upon household matters, and we will help you when you fail, to fill up our department.

School ma'am, your poem was good. I am glad to see so many poets springing up in our midst. Perhaps I shall be allowed to "speak my pieces" while the critic is looking at somebody else. Rev. G. A. Watson, we welcome you, both in poem and prose.

I had a splendid letter from California a few days ago which I think may interest the Home Circle. Although not written for publication, I wish the other friends to share its perusal with me.

Lloyd Guyot, how do you like South-West Missouri? Tell us something about your new home, I received your card and letter; thanks.

IDYLL.

Dorothy Comes Back.

Good afternoon, everybody. I was so glad to get the RURAL, as it had been more than a year since I had seen a number of the paper. Nina, Bon Ami, Paulus and Lloyd Guyot are the only writers that I recognize. Where is Miss Ted? I sincerely hope she is at least an occasional visitor.

One speaks of Woman's Rights. I think a woman has a right to be as good and helpful as a man. When quite a small body, I recollect of attending a Lyceum, wherein, the topic being Woman Frugality, a youth relieved himself somewhat after this fashion: "Woman, our true, holy wife, sister and mother must never be dragged into this filthy pool of politics. She is our angel, given to fallen men here below as comforter, beacon, etc." I felt very much elevated over the idea of being an angel. Upon arriving at a slightly mature age I naturally reflected that if this woman's virtue is worth the name, it will not be dimmed, but rather will it be brightened with the earnest effort to redeem that which is wrong, be it in one's own household or in the wide, wide world. I am not sure that I desire to vote, but if I should ever move to Wyoming, certainly I shall not pin on the blue ribbon and speak in the cause of temperance one day, and another attend the polls and vote for a whisky drinker. It is said that the bad women will vote as well as the good ones. Bad men vote also as well as—those that are better. Besides it is to be hoped that the good will outbalance the bad.

Uncle John says correctly, "You are under no obligations to have a lover or marry." Yet old maids are more sneered at than drunkards' wives. One definition of woman's work is "mend her husband's clothes and rock the cradle." How about the hundreds of thousands of old maids who can never hope to have a husband to take care of nor a baby to rock?

That her hand may be given with dignity, she must be able to stand alone."

A quondom correspondent of the Circle writes me an interesting description of the cliff dwellers of Arizona, that prehistoric race who "flourished and decayed upon this continent, before Columbus crossed the sea." DOROTHY.

Some Great Things.

This earth compared with the universe is but an atom, but compared with our direct observations and our limited powers, it is a stupendous affair. Even some of the works of man are supposed to be great. The ancient ruins of Egypt for example. One of the pyramids covering near 13 acres with height in proportion, built symmetrically of solid hewn stone, and by hands that had no aid from steam power. The Chinese Wall, built 1500 miles over rivers and hill and dale is a counterpart. Of modern works the railroads of the United States are now nearly long enough to go twice around the world. Consider that each mile of these cost \$50,000 for grading alone, and that most of this has been done within the past 25 years. But we will return to the works of nature.

The divisions of this earth are great in their extent. The land consists of five great continents peopled with 2,000,000,000 human beings. The water comprises three times this area, and the inhabitants thereof are more numerous and more great than those of the land.

The rivers are great in their usefulness and extent, one of which measures 4100 miles long, and one 150 miles wide at its mouth. The mountains tower so high that no human being can live on some of their summits.

Sophie adds her voice, and advises the ejection of the literati, and especially the ousting of the gentlemen, thus gaining more space for the "discussion of household matters." Being somewhat interested in this movement, I beg to assure her that such summary decisions will not be at all necessary. If the ladies capable of contributing on such subjects will send in their "copy," I am sure they will find both room and readers. But we, who lack both taste and talent for such writ-

The perpendicular walls of solid rock in the Yosemite valley tower nearly a mile high, waterfalls are there seen to leap down dizzy heights, dashing rivers of liquid into clouds of spray. Volcanoes agitate the bowels of the earth, and with terrible voice eject rivers of melted lava, filling whole valleys and engulfing cities in their sulphurous embrace, rushing on until their mad career is checked only by the sea which is rendered literally a seething and boiling chardron.

The elements of the earth, which, while under our control are our useful servants, but past our control are fatally and directly our masters. These are great in their forces and influence. Consider for a moment the effects of even some of our modern floods. We will leave the account of Noah and his ark behind and look at the example of our Mississippi river. When this great father of waters breaks the levees and leaps out of his bounds, he becomes 80 miles wide in places, submerging fertile lands enough to constitute a whole State. The force of Niagara pouring its constant stream of water 160 feet over those falls, is sufficient to turn 10,000 mills. When the fire fiend gets loose he ruthlessly devours vast regions of forests and with one fell swoop lays waste 1800 acres in the heart of a populous and wealthy city. Even the healthy atmosphere which we breathe when fanned into a cyclone carries death and destruction before it. When the ocean waves are put in motion by old Boreas, no barrier which may be erected by the puissant hand of man can withstand their power. How feeble and insignificant are the works of man when compared with the majesty, the grandeur and the power of the ocean.

Bohd modern steamship of 10,000 tons burden, with engines of 4000 horse power, iron bound and steel plated costing a million dollars, with hundreds of human souls on board, a little world in itself, the pride and glory of its owners and builders, riding majestically and gracefully as the swan, a beautiful sight upon the calm sea. But a change comes over the scene, dark and threatening clouds loom up on the distant horizon, the sky is darkened, the elements are let loose, the winds rise and the waves run mountains high. Hark! the thunder roars, the lightning flashes, and fear fills every heart. The noble ship labors manfully as the storm increases. O horror of horrors! every heart-throb ceases at the appalling spectacle. They approach huge cliffs of rocks, the rudder is broken, the ship is past control and in a twinkling she is dashed to atoms and to destruction. Where now is man's strength and glory? Are not these great things? But I want to tell you of something that so far as the importance which we should attach to it, and its influence for our good, for weal or for woe, is greater than all these. What is this that is so great? I will call it principle. The great idea of correct actions in our lives and correct motives in the human heart. There are unavoidably different opinions in regard to what constitutes right and wrong in many minor matters, but on the one great fundamental feature of equality and justice to all, none can honestly differ. The golden rule covers it all. Submit to the rights of others as readily as you exact your own. Selfishness in the human heart is the greatest sin with which we have to contend. If we could realize that in the exercise of a little effort to add to the happiness of others, we conduct to our own, we would less seldom hear the quotation: "Man's inhumanity to man, makes countless millions mourn." No better advice for our spiritual or temporal good was ever given than to "Love one another." This is the definition of charity, "which covereth a multitude of sins."

O. MOFFET.

Essay on Poetry.

The greatest objection one can urge against Gray's Elegy, is its monotony. In both matter and versification the most monotonous uniformity is maintained. Notice the first stanza of this popular Elegy:

"The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea,
The plowman homeward plods his weary way,
And leaves the world to darkness and to me."

You observe that this stanza is written in pure iambic verse. Each line has just five feet. The number of feet in any line throughout the poem is invariable. This should not be so. Poetic genius should be shackled by no rules.

It is not essential to poetry. The coming poet will not hamper his genius by paying any regard to rhythm; he will observe no rules; he will mix iambic, trochaic, anapestic and dactylic verse indiscriminately; and he will vary the number of feet in corresponding lines at least from three to five.

Gray should have introduced into his elegy a few lively incidents to break the uniform solemnity, and enhance the reader's enjoyment. A ghost, an eloquent, an eloquent, a French duel would have destroyed the appearance of sadness and greatly increased one's interest in the denouement. I feel confident that all these errors would have been avoided had the elegy been written by Paulus.

Our Author, in his *Etiomma*, has shown us how much variety it is possible to introduce in a little poem of four stanzas. It is in variety of versification that our author excels all other writers, ancient or modern.

He who requires much from himself and little from others, will keep himself from being the object of resentment.

The grand essentials of happiness are, something to do, something to love, and something to hope for. —Chalmers.

"Five Dr.'s: no end of medicine: no relief. Dr. Benson's Skin Cure has driven away all eruptions and I'm nearly well." Idia C. Young, Hamilton, Ill. Druggists keep it, \$1 per package.

It is one of the maxims of Francis de Sales—and good men and women in all lands might well adopt it as their motto—that "A judicious silence is always better than truth spoken without charity."

Veterinary surgeons all over the country are fiercely denouncing parties who put up extra large packs of worthless trash and sell it for condition powders. They say that Sheridan's Calvary Condition Powders are the only kind now known that are worth carrying home.

The new car works at Kingston, (Ontario,) has a steam-hammer which can strike a blow of 44,000 pounds!

There is an unusual outbreak of spots on the sun, covering nearly the entire equatorial region of the great luminary. A considerable solar disturbance is indicated.

Ayer's Hair Vigor stimulates the hair cells to healthy action, and promotes a vigorous growth. It contains all that can be supplied to make the natural hair beautiful and abundant; keeps the scalp free from dandruff, prevents the hair from becoming dry and harsh, and makes it flexible glossy.

The Academy of Fine Arts at Philadelphia, will receive \$100,000 from the estate of Henry C. Gilpin, who died in 1860, bequeathing one-third of his residuary estate to it.

The rate of vibrations of the rattlesnake tail has been determined by Dr. Ott, to be sixty per second. The method of experiment was to attach a pen to the snakes rattles, the record being received on a revolving drum.

prose. Not so with Paulus. His keen eye sees how he can convert this prose into poetry. He simply misplaces the accent of cigar, and under his magic fingers, the line becomes a pure iambic verse, four feet long.

The most attractive feature of our author's poetry is, that should it ever become popular, every family can produce it in unlimited quantities.

To prevent mistake, I offer this recipe: Borrow a few sentimental ideas from Mr. Oscar Wilde. Boil these for three hours; then stir in slowly a number of iambic, trochaic and anapestic feet. Boil this mixture two hours longer; then add a few lines of commonplace prose, the words of which are accented on the wrong syllable. Boil on two hours longer; then add, by way of seasoning, a little Johnsonese. Serve while hot, for when cold, the dish is exceedingly stale.

I have no experience in writing recipes, but I believe this is after the usual style.

I have already intimated that our author would be successful as an Elegiac poet, but his forte is undoubtedly Pastoral Poetry.

The rough, rugged verses in which the ancient oriental shepherds gave vent to their feelings, are miserably regarded as the best specimens of Pastoral Poetry. Virgil's Pastoral are too elegant, refined, poetic to be considered genuine Pastoral. If, then, as Pope remarks, rusticity is poetry—and no one can doubt it—I think I am correct in regarding our sweet author as the greatest Pastoral poet that ever lived.

Paulus hitherto has not been a prolific poet, but he has given us enough verses to indicate the nature of the calamity which, should a kind Providence fail to interfere, may at any moment befall us. I am aware that in my enthusiasm, I may have given our author greater praise than his merits deserve; yet, after all that can be said by his enemies, I think the fact must remain that his effusion cannot be surpassed by an ordinary school-boy ten or eleven years old. Of course a bright boy could surpass it, but it would be mighty hard for a common boy to beat it.

BOX AMI.

Gamesville, Texas.

THIS AND THAT.

Charms strike the sight, but merit wins the soul.

The more honest a man has the less he affects the air of a saint.

The "Favorite Prescription" of Dr. Pierce cures "female weakness" and kindred afflictions. By druggists.

Grieve not that men know not you, grieve that you know not men.—Confucius.

The Howe Scale took first premium at Philadelphia, Paris, Sidney, and other exhibitions. Borden, Selleck & Co., Agents, St. Louis, Mo.

BRAINS AND FLUID.

For the prevention and treatment of Diphteria, Scarlet Fever, Small Pox, Yellow Fever, Malaria, etc.

The free use of the Fluid will do more to arrest and cure these diseases than any known preparation.

DARBY'S PROPHYLACTIC FLUID.

The Dairy.**The Dairy in Iowa.**

EDITOR RURAL WORLD:—I am proud of the position that Iowa now holds as a butter producing State. She stands second to none, her butter having taken first premium at the "Centennial," and other great National Exhibitions. Iowa is capable of becoming still more famous, for her resources are as yet but slightly developed. Creameries are opening up all over the country. In this and adjoining counties they have become quite numerous and have added wealth to the communities in which they are established.

There has been a more uniform and better grade of butter in the market since the creamery system has been adopted by some of our private dairymen. There is no reason why a superior article of butter cannot be made at home if proper facilities are employed. For my part, I believe the dairy can be made superior to the creamery in the production of "gilt-edge" butter.

The first things to be considered in the production of good butter are good cows and good feed. It is well understood by those who have given the subject attention that good flavored, sweet butter cannot be made from poor feed. The next thing in order after good cows, good feed, and plenty of water, is the proper arrangement for setting the milk to obtain the best results. But here is the "dilemma;" which, among all the modern inventions or improvements, will yield the best returns and produce the best butter? Is the question so often asked, and which has not as yet been satisfactorily answered.

It seems to me that this is a question that each must consider for himself, and arrange his place for setting his milk according to his circumstances. There is nothing yet invented that will surpass all things considered—a pure cold spring with its sparkling water rippling through the milk-house and then off to the pasture.

But all cannot have spring-houses, and must needs resort to the next best thing. Where ice is abundant perhaps the creamery will rank first. In the absence of ice a good well may be made to answer a very good purpose either with or without a wind-mill. I will give a description of the way we manage our milk.

First we have a never-failing well of water, so situated that the water is carried to the cellar through a half-inch gas-pipe where it discharges into a wooden vat in which the milk is kept. The pipe is connected with the pump-pipe below the surface of the ground, when water is pumped a portion of it runs through this pipe to the cellar and finds its way through a waste-pipe into a grove where the stock can have the benefit of it.

Our cans are 13 inches in height and 8 inches in diameter, holding, when filled conveniently full, from 18 to 20 lbs. of milk; in these we have glass indicators to mark the depth of cream by inches when we wish to sell cream, as we find it convenient to do sometimes.

The cream being soft in water-setting has to be taken by means of a dipper instead of a skimmer. These are made funnel-shaped, close at the bottom, and furnished with a strong handle. This dipper is pressed slowly into the cream which runs over the top and is then put into a large tin can kept for this purpose.

When the weather is too warm to keep the cream sweet and good, it is hung down 25 or 30 feet in the well by means of a windlass made for this purpose. The cream is churned in warm weather at the same temperature it comes from the well, which is 48 to 52 degrees, but in cool weather we warm it a little,—cream should not be kept too cold as it will become bitter and not sour.

About 62 degrees is the best temperature for churning cream, but if the thermometer marks above this it plainly shows that before the cream can be churned it will be much too warm, the result will be soft butter, and no amount of cooling will make good butter of that which has been churned too warm. When the temperature of the air is below 62 degrees it is necessary to raise the cream above this degree as it will cool off in churning.

If the churning is done in any other than a revolving churn it should be rinsed down with water to suit the temperature of the cream; if too warm take cold water; if too cold take tepid water.

We prefer to have our butter gather into lumps about the size of buck-shot; care should be taken not to over-churn it as the grain will be injured,—the butter-milk is then drawn off and the butter washed in the churn; we use a dash-churn which is worked by horse-power; the last water having a quart of salt put into it and the butter allowed to remain in it for some time, several hours, if it is in a cool place where it will not get soft. It is then taken out and drained, salted to about 1 oz. to the lb., with good dairy salt, allowed to stand 12 or 24 hours, then worked over and packed.

We have never had much experience in making butter that would *keep*,—our butter being disposed of about twice a month.

Our butter has found a ready sale in private families in the city of Dubuque for 9 or 10 years, when we found it more convenient to have a "Grocery-man" sell it for us as it saved the trouble of delivering.

We have always had good prices for butter, 25 cts. per lb., for ten years, no matter what the current price was; and some years it went down to 7 and even 4 cts. per lb.

Our customers did not grumble; they wanted *good* butter and were willing to pay for it.

Since the establishment of creameries in our midst the price of butter has gone up, and our butter sells from 25 to 32 cts., according to supply and demand.

I have made this article too long, I fear; I wanted to make it plain enough to be understood, and hope I have done so. Should like to hear from others interested in butter-making. I will add that milk set in water and skinned sweet is much better for raising calves than when it is allowed to sour; it also makes a fair article of cheese for home use.

Mrs. A. L. P.

LaMotte, Iowa, March 5, 1883.

Scientific Butter-making.

We present herewith a rather lengthy article on Scientific Butter-making and suggest for it a careful reading on the part of all interested. It is not only from good authority but comparatively exhaustive of the subject. The term *scientific* need frighten no one, it simply means practice perfected, which is what all ought to aim and must aspire to if they would rank among the good butter makers.

The object of working butter is to free the butter from buttermilk, or water, to give it a more solid consistency for immediate table use, or for the tub, and to mix the salt in it evenly. Butter is sometimes re-worked for the purpose of thoroughly mixing different lots, and giving the whole a uniform character and color.

The following are the conditions of the scientific workings of butter:

1st. The hands must not be allowed to come into contact with the butter.

2nd. There must be applied the force of pressure, the most careful and direct possible, and the butter should not be over-worked.

3d. The butter should be worked at the proper time and at the right temperature.

4th. Butter should be worked in quantities, if possible, of a package at a time.

5th. The work should be done with the minimum of labor, a condition, of course, of every process of working.

(1) Not only does the touch of the hand by heat injure the grain, but it imparts a taunt. Some persons have cold hands, and think they will work butter without doing the butter injury. It is a question if it is well to risk the chances. If a person be in a state of health, the hand will be too warm, and in health or otherwise there are emanations from the pores of the skin that should be kept away from so extremely sensitive a thing as butter. The material to be brought into contact with butter is wood, sponge, cloth, &c. For working very small quantities a wooden bowl and ladle, or a table and paddle, may do; but for general dairy purposes, where butter is to be packed, a "butter-worker" is very necessary. The lifting of the butter from the churn, when it is at a cold temperature, is a work so quickly performed that it may, perhaps, be done by the hand without any appreciable harm to the butter; but there is no need of even this much of hand contact; a ladle, a paddle or a strainer dipper is quite convenient and their use is thoroughly scientific. Not only the wholesomeness of the product, but the health of the operator will carry emphasis in this condition. Dairy women have admitted that they are aware of suffering physical injury from the old way of doing this and other dairy work.

(2) Prof. Arnold insists that "all rubbing, sliding and grinding motion must be most carefully avoided, as it breaks the grain and makes the butter greasy." If butter has been properly washed in the churn, very little working will be required. It saves some strokes of the lever to press upon the butter, where the water gathers, with a damp cloth, or a sponge, which, of course absorbs the water. After the butter has been salted, if it is allowed to stand over for a second working, the action of the salt will do something to draw out the water. A butter-maker, careful to follow out the scientific method, will take advantage of these points, and be able to make the necessary working, for evenly running the salt in, to serve for nearly all the lever pressure the butter will need.

"When worked at a higher point (than 60 deg.) the butter gravitates towards stickiness, and when worked at too low a point, the butter becomes mealy, and the texture is destroyed. As to the time of working, Prof. Arnold's directions for salting are quite to the point: "As soon as ready the salt should be evenly incorporated, always doing it with the least possible labor, and then the butter set away for 6 to 12 hours for the salt to dissolve, and then worked again with a light working. Some dairymen are in the habit of working but once, and packing as soon as salted. This treatment will not spoil good butter, but when the finest quality is desired, and the butter is to be long kept, the practice is not advisable. When the salt is added to the butter, it absorbs the water of composition, and leaves the butter a little porous. A short second working makes it more solid. A firkin which will hold 100 pounds of butter worked once will hold about 102 pounds worked twice. The second working should be barely enough to press the mass firmly together and get out a part of the brine. To remove all the brine makes it too dry, but not to the conditions as favorable as possible so as to reduce the percentage of losses to the minimum, while they will feed them with the greatest economy."

An essential to success in keeping poultry on a large scale, is ample range. An acre to 100 fowls is none too much, and not more than 100 should be kept in one yard and allowed to roost in the same house. A portion of every yard should be kept spaded up mellow to enable the fowls to scratch and wallow, and the remainder kept in grass for them to feed upon. The hen houses can be made of cheap, rough material, open and airy in summer, warm but well ventilated in winter. Eggs in winter can be obtained only by giving the hens warm quarters. Light also is important, and this can be assured by windows, or perhaps, double windows.

Next to good houses and ample yards proper food is indispensable. Hens, to lay their best, must have a variety of food. Grain alone, especially corn, will not cause them to lay their largest number. Grain, vegetables, and meat, with frequent changes in diet will secure the greatest number of eggs. Many believe that buckwheat is the best kind of grain to promote laying. Wheat is believed to be better than corn, but probably a frequent variation in the diet is the best course to pursue.

A small farmer, working from thirty to fifty acres, could devote from ten to twenty acres of it to a poultry yard, and on the remainder grow the necessary feed for them, and vegetables, fruit, &c., for family use, realizing a better income than if all were devoted to crops. There is certainly a demand in the country for more eggs and poultry, and we think if some of our small farmers should go to work in a sensible way to attempt to supply that demand they would add to their incomes and benefit society.

Lime for Hen-Houses.

Through the summer months the hen-houses should have had a thorough cleaning out once or twice. Before cold weather sets in, if there are any doubts as to the cleanliness of the house, it should be gone over and done. In the first place remove all the droppings from the house and sweep the floor clean. Then sprinkle air-slacked lime and ashes thickly thereon. Wash all the perches (after all patches of manure have been scraped off) with boiling lime whitewash, put on with an old brush, and carefully worked and rubbed into the cracks, being careful to cover every part of the roost thoroughly. Lime is the greatest cleanser and purifier known. Any one at all acquainted with insects would not for a moment think of smoking them out with brimstone. A thorough cleaning must be gone through with twice each year. After the floor is cleaned, the sidings, nest-boxes, perches and every aperture belonging to the inner building must be thoroughly whitewashed before a riddance of the pests can be effected. They dread whitewash, and delight and revel in filth. Use strong unbleached wood ashes, if they can be had, and keep the floor dry and covered with them. If not employ quick-lime. If the droppings are dried up immediately, their living is gone.

I have made this article too long, I fear; I wanted to make it plain enough to be understood, and hope I have done so. Should like to hear from others interested in butter-making. I will add that milk set in water and skinned sweet is much better for raising calves than when it is allowed to sour; it also makes a fair article of cheese for home use.

Mrs. A. L. P.

LaMotte, Iowa, March 5, 1883.

The Poultry Yard.**Keeping Poultry on a Large Scale.**

The supply of eggs and poultry, especially the former, in our markets, says the *Rural Home*, has been totally inadequate to meet the demands of consumers. The price rules high the year round. Even in the season of greatest plenty, the past year, consumers who depended upon the groceries for their supply were obliged to pay about one and a half cents a piece, and now they cost about three cents each. We think that for eating, solely, good sized eggs are as cheap at two cents each as beef-steak at sixteen cents a pound. Still, we believe good profit can be made producing eggs at lower rates, provided the business is followed with the same knowledge, judgment and good sense that ordinary farming is pursued.

There have been many attempts made in the past to keep fowls on so large a scale as to make it a business of itself, but most of those attempts have failed. Probably many causes have attributed to such failures, but we think the greatest one has been the attempt to keep too many together. Poultry yards have been established under the mistaken idea that large flocks may safely be kept together; however large a number are kept together, and however large their range, they will all crowd together in roosting, has not been considered. Where a large number roost together the air will become impure, the fowls will become filthy, lousy, and subject to epidemics, and disease and death will render them unprofitable and rapidly reduce their numbers. Most of the large poultry farms in this country have proved failures. Large flocks of poultry have failed to yield eggs in proportion to small flocks. Good laying pullets have been known to lay 150 eggs in a year, the first year of their laying, but in large flocks they generally fail to average one half that number.

In establishing a poultry yard the first thing to determine is, what shall be your leading object, eggs or chickens. If eggs, the larger proportion of your fowls should be of the non-sitters, perpetual laying breeds. Among these are the Leghorns and Hamburgs, the Polands and Spanish, and crosses with one another or with common breeds. To replenish the flocks, it will be necessary to keep some hens that are good sitters and good mothers to hatch enough of the eggs of the layers to take the place of those that exceed the age of profitable laying. No fowls can be kept with profit for laying after two years, and it may be questioned whether it is advisable to keep them after one full year's laying. We are inclined to think that the best plan is to turn them off in the second autumn when about eighteen months old.

If you wish to make growing and fattening chickens for market an equal or prominent object in the business, some of the larger breeds or crosses upon them would be desirable. Among these are the Plymouth Rocks, which are favorites with many. They are not quite so large and clumsy as some of the larger Asilas, such as the Cochins and Brahmas, but they are of large size and make meaty chicks. While we are of the opinion that there is more clear money in selling eggs than chickens, because in selling eggs we avoid all risks of loss of chicks and expense in raising them, yet careful poultiers will make money in raising chickens. They will have all the conditions as favorable as possible so as to reduce the percentage of losses to the minimum, while they will feed them with the greatest economy.

When worked at a higher point (than 60 deg.) the butter gravitates towards stickiness, and when worked at too low a point, the butter becomes mealy, and the texture is destroyed. As to the time of working, Prof. Arnold's directions for salting are quite to the point: "As soon as ready the salt should be evenly incorporated, always doing it with the least possible labor, and then the butter set away for 6 to 12 hours for the salt to dissolve, and then worked again with a light working. Some dairymen are in the habit of working but once, and packing as soon as salted. This treatment will not spoil good butter, but when the finest quality is desired, and the butter is to be long kept, the practice is not advisable. When the salt is added to the butter, it absorbs the water of composition, and leaves the butter a little porous. A short second working makes it more solid. A firkin which will hold 100 pounds of butter worked once will hold about 102 pounds worked twice. The second working should be barely enough to press the mass firmly together and get out a part of the brine. To remove all the brine makes it too dry, but not to the conditions as favorable as possible so as to reduce the percentage of losses to the minimum, while they will feed them with the greatest economy."

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The Stock Pards.

Weekly Review of the Live Stock Market.

Mr. W. F. Davis, of Clinton Co., Mo., took the top for hogs since the last report. He sent in a fine car load, for which Mr. Moody, of Irons and Cassidy secured \$7.75 per hundred.

Mr. C. M. Keys, who was with the excursion party which attended the cattle convention at Fort Worth, Tex., has come home enthusiastic over the results of that meeting. He says that St. Louis was particularly well represented, and that Col. Colman, Col. Isaac H. Knox and Mr. Wm. P. Buell, specially distinguished themselves as capable and sagacious leaders and advocates of St. Louis interests. He says the prairies of the west are full of running plows, that there is energy, capital and confidence out there, that 1883 promises to be an exceptional year of prosperity, and that our city cannot fail to benefit by it, since the people have become acquainted with many of our business men, and have learned of our superior advantages.

THURSDAY, March 8, 1883.

CATTLE—Market active and high for everything. Sales annexed speak for themselves. Pens cleared very early. Representative sales:

16 native cows—heifers.....	870	\$4 50
16 native butchers.....	1023	5 12
37 native cows—heifers.....	994	5 50
16 native steers.....	1023	5 10
14 native butchers.....	1147	5 40
15 native cows—heifers.....	922	4 12
15 mixed butchers.....	792	4 75
14 native steers.....	979	5 50
14 native butchers.....	994	5 50
14 native butchers.....	1002	5 25
17 native steers.....	1376	5 90
17 native butchers.....	1034	5 25
10 native steers.....	1040	5 00
21 southwest mixed.....	1182	5 30
18 native steers.....	1310	6 10
18 native steers.....	1436	6 37

HOGS—Again high and strong. Almost any hog would sell for more than \$7.00 light shipping we quote at \$7.20@7.35; packing \$7.15@7.40; good to best heavy \$7.35@7.70. Pigs skips \$6.75@7.25. All strong and brisk to the last. Representative sales:

12 native cows—heifers.....	870	\$4 50
12 native butchers.....	1023	5 12
37 native cows—heifers.....	994	5 50
16 native steers.....	1023	5 10
14 native butchers.....	1147	5 40
15 native cows—heifers.....	922	4 12
15 mixed butchers.....	792	4 75
14 native steers.....	979	5 50
14 native butchers.....	994	5 50
14 native butchers.....	1002	5 25
17 native steers.....	1376	5 90
17 native butchers.....	1034	5 25
10 native steers.....	1040	5 00
21 southwest mixed.....	1182	5 30
18 native steers.....	1310	6 10
18 native steers.....	1436	6 37

HOGS—Market active, 5 to 10% higher on heavy, and sold at \$7.40 to \$7.60 for choice, and \$7.00 to \$7.35 for common to good. Light hogs about 5% higher, at \$6.95 to \$7.10 for fair to good Yorkers. IPGs, culs, sold at \$6.50 to \$6.85. All sold. Representative sales:

44.....237.....\$7.25	34.....192.....\$7.00
25.....257.....7.30	61.....217.....7.20
48.....315.....7.40	46.....522.....7.25
62.....294.....7.50	34.....191.....7.05

SHEEP—Market slow but firm for good sheep. Common are dull and weak. Sales:

81.....94.....\$4.45	77.....94.....\$4.62
92.....97.....\$4.50	80.....96.....\$4.45
20.....77.....5.00	254.....62.....3.90

FRIDAY, March 9, 1883—2 p. m.

CATTLE—Receipts failed to supply the demand, and though prices advanced Tuesday, jumped up Wednesday, choice extra heavy steers selling at \$6.50@6.75, the market ruled still higher Thursday, and again higher than ever Friday. Most of the buyers for Eastern and interior markets were compelled to curtail their shipments, and buyers for stockers and feeders were left empty handed. Pens invariably cleared in the early part of the day. From sales annexed it will be seen that butchers cattle sold at \$4.65@5.25 for less than 1000 lbs averages, and light shipping at \$5.60 all intermediate sales:

16 native steers.....	113	\$5.60
16 native steers.....	1188	6.50
16 native steers.....	1157	5.75
16 native steers.....	1345	6.30
35 native steers.....	1223	5.80

HOGS—Not enough here to supply local butchers, and quality of such as were here was only fair to good. Prices ruled 10@12c stronger, but the real strength of the market could not be tested on any grade, but anything like a merchantable load of hogs at over \$7.00. We now quote good to choice heavy at \$7.40@7.75. Fair to good packing \$7.00@7.25. Yorkers and Baltimores \$7.00@7.20. Pigs and culs \$6.50@6.90. Representative sales:

61.....250.....\$7.40	61.....317.....\$7.30
51.....272.....7.40	63.....318.....\$7.20
10.....250.....7.10	48.....328.....7.35

GROWTH MARKET slow but steady for good sheep. Common are dull and weak. Sales:

90.....95.....\$4.85	79.....113.....\$5.12
85.....87.....\$4.30	173.....97.....\$5.30
76.....91.....4.40	

MONDAY, March 12, 1883.

CATTLE—Market opened slow under liberal receipts. Good butchers and medium weight shippers sold 10c to 15c lower than at the close of last week. Heavy shipping erratic, irregular, and sold all the way from 10c to 25c lower than last week. Market ruled weak and slow to the close.

An active demand for stockers and feeding cattle.

Good to choice fresh milch cows with calves wanted. Representative sales:

19 native steers.....	1333	\$5.75
16 native steers.....	1333	6.00
16 native steers.....	1223	5.90
29 native steers.....	1345	6.00
14 native steers.....	1364	6.00

MIXED BUTCHERS.....

16 native butchers.....	850	4.75
20 southern mixed.....	812	4.87
20 southern mixed.....	809	4.80
23 native butchers.....	816	4.80
19 Indian steers.....	956	5.15

NATIVE COWS.....

16 native butchers.....	1062	5.35
18 mixed butchers.....	1015	5.20

HOGS—Market for heavy hogs opened weak and about 10% lower than at the close of last week, but gathered strength toward noon, and closed fairly active and 5% stronger than early sales. Receipts were rather common. Light hogs active, steady. We now quote good to choice heavy at \$7.40 to \$7.50. Fair to good packing \$7.00 to \$7.35. Yorkers and Baltimores \$7.00 to \$7.25. Pigs and culs \$6.50 to \$6.75. Representative sales:

21.....224.....\$7.30	58.....97.....\$7.45
67.....210.....7.25	17.....242.....\$7.40
56.....232.....7.00	30.....158.....6.90
69.....242.....7.25	58.....234.....7.20

SHEEP—Market slow but steady for good sheep. Common are dull and weak. Sales:

90.....83.....\$4.35	145.....106.....\$5.25
106.....100.....\$4.20	109.....90.....\$4.50

TUESDAY, March 13, 1883—2 p. m.

CATTLE—Market for shipping cattle opened steady at Monday's decline, but there was a healthier tone, and pens were cleared in good time at firm prices.

Butchers cattle were scarce, and sold early at strong prices for good quality, and steady for others.

An active demand for stockers and feeding cattle.

Good to choice fresh milch cows with calves wanted.

REPRESENTATIVE SALES:

15 native steers.....	1070	\$6.15
16 native steers.....	1188	6.50
16 native steers.....	1445	6.00
25 native steers.....	1362	6.15
16 native steers.....	1357	6.00

HOGS—The hog market stronger and active, all sold early. Choice heavy shipping